

has suggested suitable margin to dealers of these items in ITDP areas. Margins to dealers of sugar and imported edible oil are fixed by the Central Government. Margin to dealers of Kerosene is governed by the provisions of the kerosene (Fixation of Ceiling Prices) Order 1970.

(b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has proposed revision of margin for distribution of sugar. They have also asked for upward revision of margin on rice and wheat distributed in I.T.D.P. areas.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to increase the margin on distribution of rice and wheat in I.T.D.P. areas. The request for revision of margin for sugar is under consideration in the Ministry of Food.

Dearness Relief to Pensioners

1150. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a difference in the extent of neutralisation of dearness allowance at identical levels of pay/pension to the Central Government employees and the pensioners;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to do away with the prevailing anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Neutralisation of the price rise is 100% to the pensioners drawing pension upto Rs. 1750/-, 75% to the pensioners in range of Rs. 1751/- to Rs. 3000/- and 65% to those pensioners who are drawing pension over Rs. 3000/-. The corresponding slabs for the serving employees are "upto Rs. 3500", "Rs. 3501/- to Rs. 6000/-" and "above Rs. 6000/-". Thus the dearness relief for the pensioners is calculated at the

same percentage as is applicable for calculating the dearness allowance on the pay of serving employees which would entitle them for the same amount of pension. The different slabs of pay/pension for the purpose of neutralisation of price rise and grant of dearness allowance to serving Central Government employees and dearness relief to Central Government pensioners were recommended by the Fourth Central Pay Commission and accepted by the Government.

(c) There is no anomaly in the present scheme of payment of dearness allowance/dearness relief. The present scheme ensures that in the event of any portion of dearness allowance being treated as dearness pay in future, the pension of future retirees with reference to pay plus dearness allowance will be exactly equal to the pension plus dearness relief of the persons who retired on the same pay before merger of dearness allowance.

Financial Assistance to States by NEHRU Centenary Celebration Committee

1151. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nehru Centenary Celebration Committee had agreed to extend financial help to the State Governments for setting up of Nehru Yuvak Kendras in the State;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has requested for financial assistance for setting up such a Kendra in Lal Baug Palace, Indore; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government of Madhya Pradesh had, in August 1988, decided

to establish a Nehru Cultural Centre at Lalbaug Palace, Indore, in a 72 acre complex acquired by them on a payment of Rs. 65 lakhs. The State Government requested the erstwhile Implementation Committee on the Commemoration of 40th Anniversary of India's Independence and the Jawaharlal Nehru Centenary for financial assistance of Rs. 65 lakhs for its development into a multi-disciplinary institution. The State Government was informed by the erstwhile Implementation Committee that on account of constraint of funds, it was not possible for them to extend any financial assistance to this project.

[Translation]

Quantity of Sugar Distributed in Rural and Urban Areas

1152. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantity of sugar being distributed through Public Distribution System is the same in rural and urban areas;

(b) if not, the quantity of sugar being distributed in rural and urban areas, separately; and

(c) the reasons for disparity, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) Central Government allocates levy sugar to State Governments/UT Administrations on a uniform norm of 425 grames per capita monthly availability for the projected population as on 1-10-1986. An adhoc increase of 5% in the allocation from August, 1991 till December, 1991 has been decided upon, which will be reviewed after December, 1991. Further allocation of the levy-sugar among various areas, whether rural and urban, in the State/UT, for distribution to consumers, is done by the concerned State Government/UT Administration.

[English]

Smuggling of Khoya and Milk Products into Capital

1153. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARAMURTHY:

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Administration has recently unearthed a racket to smuggle khoya and other milk products into the capital from Ghaziabad and other satellite towns;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Department has conducted raids at the godowns and units manufacturing khoya, paneer and ghee during the last three months in the capital;

(d) if so, the details of the raids conducted and persons arrested; and

(e) the action taken against the persons involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Three cases of unlawful possession of khoya were detected and 415 kg. of khoya was seized by Delhi Administration.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In course of intensive checkings made during May, June and July (till 19-7-1991), 8 FIRs were lodged and 12 persons arrested.

(e) Cases are under investigations and further action as per law will be taken by the UT Administration.

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1154. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state: